charges levied by the Pay Channels/Cable Operators or the charges payable by the Cable Operators to the TV Broadcasting Companies. These charges are purely a contractual affair between the Broadcasting Companies, Cable Operators and the subscribers, and the rates are market driven. Government does not regulate the charges levied by the Broadcasting Companies or the Cable operators.

News-Item Regarding Entry of Foreign Media

834. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Sushma volte face on foreign media entry', which appeared in the Statesman (Kolkata), dated 18th October, 2001; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An exercise for introducing limited changes in the media policy by allowing Foreign Direct Investment in Print Media in so far as it relates to non-news and non-current affairs newspapers and periodicals is under consideration of the Government.

Norms set by DAVP for Publication of Advertisements

835. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the norms followd by DAVP for publication of advertisements in the various newspapers; and

(b) the reasons for not giving any advertisements for publication in the Oil Field Times Economic Daily, which is published from Guwahati (Assam)?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Directorate of advertisng and Visual Publicity (DAVP) releases advertisements to newspapers empanelled with it on the basis of the provisions of the "Advertising Policy and Guidelines for Empanelment of Newspapers with DAVP.

(b) The Oil Field Times Economic Daily, English published from Guwahati (Assam) is not eligible for release of Government Advertisements as it is not empanelled with DAVP, at present.